

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-28 have been subjected to a restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. §§121 and 372. In response thereto, Applicants elect with traverse, Group II (claims 1-15) for continued prosecution in this application. If necessary, Applicants also provisionally elect SEQ ID NO:1 as nucleic acid molecule and SEQ ID NO:2 as corresponding amino acid sequence.

Applicants respectfully request that claim 17 (Group III) and claims 1-15 (Group I) be regrouped since both groups of claims use the same selection steps.

Further, Applicants respectfully request that the claims of Group II and IV be regrouped, since they are related as coding sequence and corresponding amino acid product.

Finally, the specification has been amended to reflect the filing data contained in the filing receipt.

Respectfully submitted



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